

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first chapter in this study consists of several sub-chapters that discuss important aspects related to the research topic, namely background, problem formulation, research objectives, research significance, and definition of key terms. Each sub-chapter plays an important role in providing an in-depth understanding of the context and objectives of the study. The following content will explain each sub-chapter in more detail, so that readers can clearly understand the objectives, scope, and significance of this study.

A. Background of Study

Enhancing Speaking Comprehension in English is important to master in any field, particularly in academics and business because it is common knowledge that English is an international language spoken by many people around the world.

As Allah Almighty said in Al-Isro verse 53 which reads:

وَقُلْ لِعِبَادِي يَقُولُوا الَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَنْزِعُ بَيْنَهُمْ إِنَّا الشَّيْطَانُ
كَانَ لِلْإِنْسَانِ عَدُوًّا مُّبِينًا

English has been used as the main language to communicate around the world in the 21st century. Nowadays, many multinational companies

corporations in Indonesia require their prospective employees to master English skills, especially speaking skills because they have to use English as a second language when working and communicating with coworkers or expatriate employees.

Therefore, they also conduct job interviews in English with prospective employees to find out their speaking skills. If a person masters speaking skills well, he or she will get a greater chance to work in a larger multinational company and earn a better salary (Sutini & Hanifah, 2020). In addition, speaking or communication skills are important soft skills for various professions and in daily life that contribute to employability Batrinca et al., (2013); Karibuse, (2016).

The use of mobile phones among children is increasing in the current digital era. While technology offers many benefits, such as access to information and learning tools, there are concerns about the negative impact of overuse. Artificial intelligence (AI)-based Android apps are emerging as an alternative solution to divert children's attention from unproductive content to an interactive and fun learning experience.

Apps like Sivi, Loora and Stimuler are designed to make learning engaging through gamification and virtual interaction. By utilizing AI technology, these apps can tailor materials to a child's individual needs, helping them develop academic as well as social skills.

In addition, AI-based apps allow parents to monitor their child's learning progress, giving them more control over the use of technology. By providing engaging educational content, these apps can address the problem of gadget addiction and encourage children to engage in useful learning activities. Therefore, the suggestion of using AI-based Android apps as an alternative for children is highly relevant in the modern educational context.

Meanwhile, this study explores the use of AI technology in AI-Based Android Apps as a tool to enhance English comprehension, especially for students who are shy to practice directly with others. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of the AI-Based Android App in enhancing English comprehension, analyze the responses of people who practice speaking English using the AI-Based Android App, and discover the factors that help a person who is learning to practice speaking successfully in enhancing their English speaking comprehension. AI-Based Android Apps are used to help someone who is learning to go deeper and feel the effect of speaking directly even though they are talking to a non-human program called Artificial Intelligence (AI). Today's society is immersed in a digital culture. For as long as anyone can remember, modern youth have had access to smart appliances. Some of them bring these gadgets to their own facilities. Even professors today use cutting-edge technology to deliver material. It's hard to imagine a future without cell phones and other technological advancements. More than that, we are on the verge of technological and raw material

advancements. People have contributed to the development of inventions that increase convenience.

Technology is solely responsible for the advances that bring independence to our daily lives while reducing the need for personal work. We can no longer imagine working with irregular machines or living without the latest technology. Artificial intelligence (AI) has changed the way people understand language, especially when it comes to English Speaking Comprehension In English. The thesis "Analyzing the Effectiveness of AI-Based Android Apps for Enhancing Speaking Comprehension in English" was created to help people who want to deepen their language learning with the help of AI. Seeing the rapid development of AI, it can be concluded that AI can be used to help people deepen their language mastery, especially for people who are learning about language Speaking Comprehension In English even though they are not used to speaking with other people directly. This research would focus on how an AI-based Apps can help someone who is learning language acquisition, especially focusing on speaking Speaking Comprehension In English which is often a difficulty for someone who is learning English, especially for people who are not used to speaking directly with others. Based on this, the researcher will conduct a study entitled **“ANALYZING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AI-BASED ANDROID APPS FOR ENHANCING SPEAKING COMPREHENSION IN ENGLISH”**

B. Definition of Key Terms

Some terms related to the research were clarified to avoid misunderstandings:

1. AI-based Android Application

Many AI-based android Apps created by developers utilizing the latest technology, driven by Artificial Intelligence are available for use in learning, especially in learning to speak English according to the objectives of this study. The AI-based android Apps that would be studied by researchers are Loora, Sivi, and stimuler. These Apps have the ability to correct the grammar that we speak and provide directly feedback. Not only that, these Apps can provide topic suggestions and replies when we feel confused. With sophisticated algorithms and coding, these AI-based android Apps provide many features for users, available for free to anyone who wants to use them without having to subscribe first although there are limitations when using the free version. Ai-based android Apps in this study are the main objective of this study; by using AI-based android Apps, researchers will find out the benefits of integrating technology with English language skills.

2. Speaking comprehension

Speaking is the ability to pronounce articulation of sounds or words for expressing, stating and delivering thoughts, ideas and feeling. Meanwhile, Brown (1994) and Amir (2010, p. 10) In Astuti (2010, p. 8) say that speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information. So, it can be concluded that speaking is an ability to communicate orally to other people with the aim to express their ideas and feelings. Additionally, Nunan (1991: 41) supported that speaking is the same as oral interaction which are conventional ways of presenting information, expressing our ideas and thought in our mind. Nunan (1991: 39) also quoted that “ To most people, mastering the art of speaking is the single most important aspect of learning a second of foreign language and success is measured in term of the ability to carry out a conversation in the language.

3. Smartphone

According to M. Alfawareh and Jusoh (2014), are a new communication medium in today's communication media. Smartphones are today's technology that, like PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants), can be connected to the internet. In this study, smartphones will be the main means of using AI-based Android Apps. Because of how easy smartphones are to access these days, almost everyone has a personal smartphone. However, not everyone can make the best

use of smartphones. Moreover, the Apps discussed by researchers are mostly only available on smartphones.

C. Research Questions

The main questions to be addressed in this research are:

1. What are AI-based android Apps that can be used on developing Speaking Comprehension In English?
2. What are the special features in each AI-based android Apps that have great benefits in developing Speaking Comprehension In English?

D. Objectives of Study

According to the research questions, the research aims to investigate:

1. To explore AI-based android Apps that can be used on developing Speaking Comprehension In English.
2. To describe the special features in each AI-based android Apps that have great benefits in developing Speaking Comprehension In English.

E. Significance of Study

This research is useful for students, teachers, learners, and researchers, considering that there are still many obstacles for some people in speaking. Besides that, learning and teaching is not that easy to do. There are many obstacles in teaching a new language to students, especially speaking skills. One way to overcome these obstacles that would be discussed here is through the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology which can make our lives easier

today, including in learning speaking. The use of artificial intelligence (AI) to facilitate the learning process may be familiar to most people, because of how easy it is now for us to access information from various sources. Tutorials are also available in various sources because it is common knowledge that most people use artificial intelligence (AI) to make things easier, whether for studying or working.

This study would provide useful information and be a reference for someone who is learning to develop fluency in speaking English, even for people who are not used to speaking directly to other people or people who are usually called introverts. This study is expected to be used as a reference for other researchers to conduct research in the field of utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) for learning, especially at the stage of developing fluency in speaking English. It is hoped that the results of this study would be useful for all readers.